

CLAIMS:

1. A filled halobutyl elastomer composition comprising at least one halobutyl elastomer, at least one mineral filler and at least one protected thiol modifier.

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2. A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to claim 1 wherein the halobutyl elastomer is a Bromobutyl elastomer.

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3. A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the mineral filler is silica.

4. A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the protected thiol modifier(s) is/are blocked mercaptosilane(s).

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5. A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the protected thiol modifier(s) is/are thioacetic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thioacetic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thioacetic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiopropionic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiopropionic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiobutyric acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiobutyric acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, pentanethioic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, pentanethioic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, pentanethioic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, pentanethioic acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, pentanethioic acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, and pentanethioic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester or mixtures thereof.

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6. A process for preparing a filled halobutyl elastomer which comprises admixing at least one halobutyl elastomer, at least one mineral filler, at least one protected thiol modifier and at least one cross-linking agent, and curing the resulting filled brominated butyl elastomer.

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7. In a method of improving the abrasion resistance of a filled, cured elastomer composition comprising at least one halogenated butyl elastomer by admixing said halogenated butyl elastomer with at least one protected thiol modifier.